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My current research investigates the relationships of geometry, building units, and methods of construction involved in the use of masonry veneer wall systems. I am in the design development stage of a "mortarless" ventilated masonry facade system that has particular implications for the architectural profession. This research has led me to reference HeidelbergCement, which is one of the world's largest manufacturers of building materials and the global market leader in aggregates research.

The funding from the Office of International Affairs has enabled me to visit HeidelbergCement's Strategy and Development Division, tour their facilities, and discuss the specifics of furthering my research in the area of applied material assembly. As a further continuation of these research activities I have visited the Technical University of Munich, where I met with former colleagues and discussed possible research collaborations and publications. The preliminary conversations have outlined two areas of collaboration. One is product development in relation to my research and the other is involving Lehigh students in workshops and tours."